



Illegal Wildlife Trade on the Rise?

Welcome to the June 2010 issue of *CITES Afrique!*

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. John Scanlon of Australia on his appointment as the new CITES Secretary-General. Mr. Scanlon, who started his duties on 3 May 2010, was previously the Principal Advisor on Policy and Programme to United Nations Environment Programme Executive Director Achim Steiner. SSN looks forward to working with Mr. Scanlon in the coming years to ensure that CITES plays the most effective role possible in the conservation of the world's wildlife.

This month, *CITES Afrique* is

partly devoted to reporting on recent ivory seizures and poaching incidents, which have been occurring with alarming frequency since CoP15. These incidents show, once again, that vigilance is essential in order to stop the organized criminal networks responsible for poaching activities.

Also in this edition, you can find information on the procedures applicable to

listing species in CITES Appendix III. A Party can unilaterally decide to list a species on Appendix III if that species is subject to regulation within its jurisdiction and if cooperation of other Parties is necessary to control international trade in the species; there is no need for the approval of other Parties or the Secretariat. We close this edition by expressing our warmest congratulations to the government of Nigeria for the progress made on strengthening CITES implementation in the country.

We hope you will find this information useful to your work.

Will Travers, Shelley Waterland and Alice Stroud, SSN Africa Regional Bureau



African lion cubs available for sale for 6000 USD each in Baghdad, Iraq © The Associated Press, May 2010

Latest CITES Postings and Notifications

◆ The Secretariat updated the list of export quotas for 2010 on 25 May 2010 with the addition of the quotas for Nicaragua and changes to the quotas for the United Republic of Tanzania. 2010 quotas can be downloaded at <http://www.cites.org/common/quotas/2010/ExportQuotas2010.pdf>.

◆ The Secretariat distributed the new Appendices revised to reflect the amendments adopted at CoP15 and the changes resulting from the adoption of new standard nomenclature references (CITES

Notification No. 2010/007).

◆ The Secretariat announced that the new Secretary-General of CITES, Mr John Scanlon of Australia, took up his duties on 3 May 2010 (CITES Notification No. 2010/008).

◆ The Secretariat invited range States of bigleaf mahogany and other neotropical timber species to communicate by 8 July 2008 the *curricula vitae* of their candidates for the chairmanship and vice-chairmanship of the Working Group created to review these species at CoP15

(CITES Notification No. 2010/009).

◆ The Secretariat informed Parties that the government of South Africa has withdrawn the perlemoen or African abalone (*Haliotis midae*) from CITES Appendix III (CITES Notification No. 2010/010).

◆ The Secretariat informed Parties that they had until 31 July 2010 to submit information relating to incidents of poaching of and illegal trade in tigers via Ecomessages (CITES Notification No. 2010/011).

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Important CITES Dates

- **23 June 2010:** entry into force of the amendments to the Appendices, Resolutions and Decisions adopted at CoP15
- **8 July 2010:** deadline for submission of candidates for the chairmanship and vice-chairmanship of the Working Group on the Bigleaf Mahogany and Other Neotropical Timber Species
- **31 July 2010:** deadline for Parties to submit information relating to incidents of poaching of and illegal trade in tigers

Criteria for Listing Species in Appendix III

CITES allows a Party to unilaterally list a species in Appendix III if cooperation of other Parties is necessary to control trade in the species (CITES Article II paragraph 3). Listing a species in Appendix III allows a Party to monitor international trade in that species, and assists that Party and others in ensuring that this trade is legal. One of the most important values of Appendix III listing is that international trade data are produced because Parties must include trade levels for Appendix III-listed species in their annual reports. These data can, for the first time, provide a picture of trade in the species thereby allowing assessment of the possible need for listing on other CITES Appendices.

Procedure for inclusion in CITES Appendix III.

Once a Party has decided to include a species in CITES Appendix III they simply communicate this decision to the Secretariat. Parties can do this *at any time*, but they are invited to inform the Secretariat of their intention at least three months before a meeting of the Conference of the Parties to ensure that the listing enters into force on the same date as amendments to Appendices I and II adopted at the meeting. When considering listing a species on Appendix III, Resolution Conf. 9.25 (Rev. CoP14) recommends that Parties:

- ◆ ensure that the species proposed for Appendix III listing is a native species;
- ◆ ensure that their national regulations are adequate to prevent or restrict exploitation and to control trade and include penalties for illegal taking, trade or possession and provisions for confiscation;
- ◆ ensure that their national enforcement measures are adequate to implement these regulations;
- ◆ determine that the cooperation of other Parties is needed to control trade;
- ◆ consult range States, importing countries, the Secretariat and the relevant

CITES scientific committee about the effect of an Appendix III listing; and

- ◆ determine, based on the consultations

“specimens” under CITES, then a list of these parts and derivatives must be provided), as well as a copy of all domestic laws and regulations applicable to the protection of such species, together with any interpretations which the Party may deem appropriate or the Secretariat may request. (CITES Article XVI)

Legal regime governing trade in Appendix III specimens.

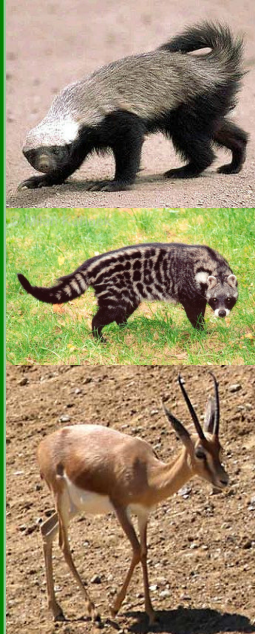
The export of any specimen of a species included in Appendix III, if it is being exported from a State which has included that species in Appendix III, requires the prior grant and presentation of an export permit. As opposed to the issuance of an export permit for Appendix II and Appendix I species, the grant of an export permit for Appendix III species

does not require the making of a non-detriment finding. Instead, the permit may be issued if:

- ◆ the Management Authority of the State of export is satisfied that the specimen was not obtained in contravention of the laws of that State for the protection of fauna and flora; and
- ◆ the Management Authority of the State of export is satisfied that any living specimen will be so prepared and shipped as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment. (CITES Article V)

If the specimen is being exported from a State that has not listed the species on Appendix III (except for re-exports), no export permit is required. Instead, the specimen can be imported on the prior presentation of a certificate of origin issued by the Management Authority of the exporting country. (CITES Article V)

In the case of re-exports, a certificate must be granted by the Management Authority of the State of re-export to determine that the specimen was processed in that State or is being re-exported. (CITES Article V)



A Party may list a species on CITES Appendix III if:

- ◆ the species is native to that country, and is subject to regulation within its jurisdiction for the purpose of preventing or restricting exploitation (that is, trade in the species is already banned or controlled by domestic laws)
- ◆ the Party needs the co-operation of other Parties in the control of trade.

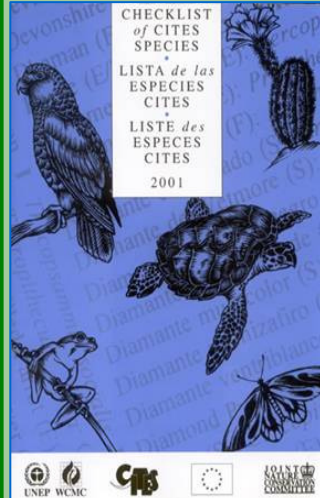
An Appendix III listing will:

- ◆ apply to the species throughout its global range unless the Party proposing the listing specifically declares otherwise (Resolution Conf. 9.25 (Rev. CoP 14) recommends that Parties consult other range States before listing.)
- ◆ apply to all readily recognizable parts and derivatives of the species unless the Party proposing the listing specifies which parts and derivatives are to be included.

Pictures: honey badger (*Mellivora capensis*, © Jaganath) and African civet (*Civettictis civetta*, © Kořinek) listed in Appendix III by Botswana; dorcas gazelle (*Gazella dorcas*, © Spangenberg) listed in Appendix III by Algeria and Tunisia.

led, that the biological status and trade status of the species justify the listing in Appendix III.

When notifying the Secretariat of the



Where to find the list of species included in CITES Appendix III?

On the Internet...
The CITES Secretariat keeps an updated list of species included in the CITES Appendices on the CITES website at <<http://www.cites.org/eng/app/appendices.shtml>>.

The Checklist of CITES Species ...
The UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre compiles a Checklist of the fauna and the flora listed in the CITES Appendices which is available on CD Rom. This Checklist includes the official alphabetical list of CITES species, their scientific synonyms, their common names in English, French and Spanish and a section entitled the Annotated CITES Appendices and Reservations. The CD Rom can be ordered from the CITES Secretariat and its content can be accessed online at <<http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/pub/checklist08/index.html>>

species to be included in CITES Appendix III, Parties must include in their communication the names of the Party or Parties submitting the species for inclusion, the scientific names of the species submitted, and any parts or derivatives of the animals or plants concerned that are specified in relation to the species for the purposes of sub-paragraph (b) of Article I (i.e. if the listing is intended to apply only to certain specified parts and derivatives so that only these items will qualify a



! POST-COP15 REPORT ON POACHING AND IVORY SEIZURES !

Post-CoP15 elephant and rhinoceros poaching incidents:

- ◆ Five elephants killed in 4 days in Virunga National Park, Democratic Republic of Congo at the end of March (Virunga National Park, 28 March 2010)
- ◆ Twenty-seven elephants poached in Chad between April and May 2010 (Bush Warriors, 20 May 2010)
- ◆ One pregnant female white rhino and her calf killed by poachers at a Gauteng nature reserve, South Africa (The Star, 1 June 2010) – this incident brings the total number of poached black and white rhino in South Africa in 2010 to 92 (Associated Press, 28 May 2010)

Post-CoP15 ivory seizures:

- ◆ 296 tusks seized by the Thai authorities at Bangkok International Airport from an inbound flight from Qatar – the tusks weighed 1,390 kg in total, representing the deaths of at least 148 elephants (Associated Press, 21 April 2010)
- ◆ 2,194 kg of elephant tusks discovered on 29 April 2010 in the northern port of Hai Phong, Vietnam (AFP, 6 May 2010 and TRAFFIC 27 May 2010)
- ◆ 400 kg of ivory and rhino horn seized in a transnational operation coordinated by Interpol targeting wildlife crime across southern Africa (Interpol, 10 May 2010)
- ◆ 1,665 kg of elephant tusks found in a container that arrived from Malaysia on board a vessel in the northern port of Hai Phong, Vietnam on 12 May 2010 (TRAFFIC 27 May 2010)
- ◆ 48 tusks and 7 tonnes of sandalwood seized in Kenya (allAfrica.com, 23 May 2010)
- ◆ 26 elephant tusks, weighing 82 kg, seized in Vietnam (Thanhnie News, 28 May 2010)

SSN is alarmed by the increase in seizures and poaching incidents since CoP15, and congratulates Interpol and those governments which have successfully contributed to the enforcement efforts that have led to recent seizures. SSN urges the CITES community to increase support for CITES enforcement in the African region.

Pictures credits: poached rhinoceros © McGuireandHines; poached elephant parts © Bush Warriors; Vietnam seizure © ZUMA press; Thailand seizure © Morning Post

Progress with CITES Implementation in Nigeria



As a follow-up to a visit from the CITES Secretary General to Nigeria in January 2010, and as part of an initiative to strengthen CITES enforcement in the country, the Nigerian authorities have implemented or are in the process of implementing activities to reinforce the implementation of CITES in the country. These activities include, *inter alia*, the creation of a national inter-agency committee on CITES enforcement, the prepa-

ration of new CITES regulations, the planning of coordinated inspections to markets and shops in order to detect illegal domestic trade in wildlife products, and the production of CITES awareness material to educate the public about CITES and wildlife crime. The Nigerian authorities reported on their progress on these activities during CoP15 in March 2010 (see CITES CoP15 Inf. 27 available

at <http://www.cites.org/common/cop/15/inf/E15i-27.pdf>).

SSN warmly congratulates the Nigerian government for the efforts it has deployed for stronger CITES enforcement, and encourages donors and the broader CITES community to support Nigeria in this work.

Capacity-building corner

Useful publications:

- ◆ *African Elephant Action Plan (March 2010)* available at www.cites.org/common/cop/15/inf/E15i-68.pdf
- ◆ UNEP WCMC, *2008 Checklist of CITES Species*, available at

<http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/pub/checlist08/index.html>.

- ◆ Cooper, et al. (2009), *Wildlife Crime Scene Investigation: Techniques, Tools and Technology*, Endangered Species Research available at <http://www.int-res.com/journals/esr/esr-home/>.

Useful websites:

- ◆ <http://cites.ecologie.gouv.fr/v1/pages/cites.asp> French CITES database (provides among other things the French names of CITES-listed species).

Please contact the SSN Africa Regional Bureau if you need help with translation.



Species Survival Network's Africa Regional Bureau

Working within CITES to facilitate the participation of African countries

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Call for local representation

The Species Survival Network's Africa Regional Bureau is engaged in a capacity building effort which involves local non-governmental organizations and the Press. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need help with CITES issues, if you wish to submit article ideas for the newsletter or if you wish to apply for SSN membership.

SSN Member of the Month: Eurogroup for Animals

Organization Profile:

Director: Sonja Van Tichelen

Date of Creation: 1980

Mission Statement: To provide expertise on animal welfare to the European institutions and to represent a united voice for animal welfare organizations in Europe

Offices Located in: Brussels, Belgium

Website: <http://www.eurogroupforanimals.org>

Project of Regional Interest: Promotion of a strategy for confiscated animals and investigation of the keeping of exotic pets in Europe

Eurogroup for Animals, with input from its members, designed a strategy for confiscated animals that will provide assistance to EU Member States for handling confiscations of illegally traded live animals of CITES-listed species. The strategy was shared with competent authorities to promote efforts by EU Member States to adopt their own strategies and facilitate the work of customs, police and other officials involved in confiscation of live animals. Eurogroup also has investigated national laws relating to the trade and keeping of exotic animals as pets and found that the levels of protection and the species covered vary greatly amongst EU Member States. Eurogroup promotes the use of a positive list which concisely states the species allowed to be kept, rather than lengthy negative lists in need of frequent revisions. Eurogroup is working with its members to promote positive lists in key countries, while identifying other opportunities to address the private keeping of exotic animals through education, enforcement and health restrictions.



Lion (*Panthera leo*) kept in a European zoo © Eurogroup for Animals

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CITES Protected Species of the Month

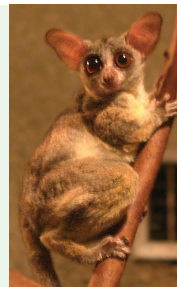


Aloe schweinfurthii included in CITES Appendix II © Grootsholten

- ◆ **Name:** *Aloe schweinfurthii*
- ◆ **CITES listing:** Appendix II
- ◆ **CITES export quotas:** No export quotas reported for 2010 (see <<http://www.cites.org/common/quotas/2010/ExportQuotas2010.pdf>>)
- ◆ **International trade levels :** Reported international trade levels are low (4 live plants exported from Kenya to Saudi Arabia in 2000) but a significant trade between countries within the African

region and for the wider market is known to be unrecorded in CITES trade data (Oldfield, 2005)

- ◆ **IUCN category:** Not yet assessed by IUCN
- ◆ **Threats:** *Aloe* species are threatened by international trade (sap has medicinal and cosmetic applications); local exploitation for medicinal use; habitat destruction; grazing
- ◆ **Range States:** Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria, Sudan, Uganda
- ◆ **Useful resources:** *Review of Significant Trade in East African Aloes*, PC14 Doc. 9.2.2 Annex 4 available on the CITES website; IUCN Medicinal Plant Specialist Group <http://www.iucn.org/about/work/programmes/species/about_ssc/specialist_groups/directory_specialist_groups/directory_sg_plants/ssc_medicinalplant_home/>; Sara Oldfield, *Trade in East African Aloes*, Vol II of the IUCN Medicinal Plant Specialist Group Newsletter (2005)



Senegal Galago (*Galago senegalensis*) listed in CITES Appendix II © OpenCage

- ◆ **Name:** Senegal galago / lesser bushbaby; galago du Sénégal (*Galago senegalensis*)
- ◆ **CITES listing:** Appendix II
- ◆ **CITES export quotas:** 25 wild specimens for Togo in 2010 (see <<http://www.cites.org/common/quotas/2010/ExportQuotas2010.pdf>>)
- ◆ **CITES trade levels (WCMC Trade Database 2010):** Between 2000 and 2009, 39 specimens of *Galago spp.* and 4 skins, 6 trophies, 11 skulls, 15 bodies, 16 skeletons, 47 specimens and 345 live specimens of Senegal galago (*Galago senegalensis*) were exported. Main exporters were Guinea and Togo; main importers were Thailand, the Czech Republic and the United States

- ◆ **IUCN category:** Least Concern
- ◆ **Threats:** Habitat loss; international and illegal trade; poaching for bushmeat

- ◆ **Range States:** Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti (query over status), Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Togo, Uganda, Tanzania

- ◆ **Useful resources:** Factsheet on galagos <http://pin.primat.wisc.edu/factsheets/entry/lesser_bushbaby/>.